

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:GGAY:SM X20857

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

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R 121946Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO CINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 024342

FOL REPEAT STATE 024342 SENT ACTION NAIROBI
LONDON INFO ADDIS ABABA DAR ES SALAAM FEB 03

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S E C R E T STATE 024342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US

SUBJECT: KENYAN REQUEST FOR US MILITARY TRAINING AND
ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) NAIROBI 741; (B) NAIROBI 199; (C) NAIROBI 10265;
(D) NAIROBI 10618

1. STATE AND DOD BELIEVE THAT FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO
KENYAN REQUEST IS IN USG'S BEST INTEREST. TO THAT END,
SECRETARY HAS MADE DECISION TO PROCEED WITH FOLLOWING
ACTIONS:

A) DOD IS DRAWING UP AN IN-CONTINENTAL U.S. MAP TRAINING
PROGRAM BEGINNING IN FY 75 PROJECTED TO HAVE AN ANNUAL
VALUE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF DOLS. 50,000. SIMULTANEOUSLY
DEPT. IS PREPARING REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATIONS

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NEEDED TO AUTHORIZE FMS CREDIT AND MAP TRAINING IN FY

75 FOR KENYA.

B) FOR LONDON: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM FCO, AND IF APPROPRIATE MOD, OF KENYAN REQUEST FOR US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND OF OUR INTENTION TO BE FORTHCOMING. EMBASSY SHOULD STRESS THAT WE RECOGNIZE AND SUPPORT BRITAIN'S TRADITIONAL ROLE AS MAJOR SUPPLIER TO KENYA OF

MILITARY TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT. WE HAVE NO WISH TO SUPPLANT BRITAIN IN THIS RELATIONSHIP BUT, GIVEN MUCH LARGER GOK MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND GOK'S DIRECT APPROACH TO US FOR ASSISTANCE, WE FEEL THAT IT IS IN JOINT INTERESTS OF US AND UK TO BE RESPONSIVE. WE WISH TO DEVELOP OUR PROGRAM IN A FRAMEWORK OF FULL CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE BRITISH. IN THIS CONNECTION IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF BRITISH WOULD PROVIDE US WITH A COPY, OR ALTERNATIVELY A COMPLETE RUN-DOWN, OF THEIR RECENT SURVEY OF KENYA'S DEFENSE NEEDS AND AN INDICATION OF THEIR CURRENT INTENTIONS TOWARD FILLING THOSE NEEDS.

C) FYI ONLY: EMBASSY TEHRAN IS BEING REQUESTED IN SEPTEL TO QUERY GOI ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY AND COST OF IRANIAN F5A'S, (WHICH GOI HAS INDICATED MAY BE SURPLUS TO ITS NEEDS), AND TO DISCUSS IN GENERAL TERMS OUR PROPOSALS FOR KENYA. THIS INITIATIVE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH THE KENYANS OR THE BRITISH UNTIL WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING F5-A'S. END FYI ONLY.

2. FOR NAIROBI: EMBASSY IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO INFORM GOK OF USG DESIRE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO KENYA'S REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITHIN APPLICABLE LEGISLATIVE, APPROPRIATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS. WE HAVE INITIATED CERTAIN REQUISITE INTERNAL ACTIONS TO PERMIT GREATER FLEXIBILITY OF RESPONSE. ALTHOUGH NOT YET IN A POSITION TO TALK SPECIFICS TO THE KENYANS, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THEM AGAIN AS SOON AS THESE INTERNAL ACTIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

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3. FYI: WE WILL NOT BE READY TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT OR PRIORITIES WITH GOK UNTIL WE HAVE CLEARER PICTURE OF BRITISH SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND INTENTIONS AND OF POSSIBILITY OF OFFERING F-5A PACKAGE DRAWN FROM IRAN'S SURPLUS. WE WILL KEEP EMBASSY FULLY INFORMED OF OUR PROGRESS. END FYI.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, MILITARY ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE024342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GGAY:SM X20857
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750039-0486
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750277/aaaacrgrn.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NAIROBI 741, 75 AIROBI 199, 75 NAIROBI 10265
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KENYAN REQUEST FOR US MILITARY TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US
To: NAIROBI LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006